(b) Does not arise.

(c) The dinner party was booked by Shri Narinder Aggarwal. No concession was granted to the party and the regular rate was charged.

Ban on serving of liquor on flights

359. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have banned serving of liquor by the private air taxi operators of the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that despite the fact that serving of liquor in flights was considered violation of the established practices so far observed in the country, the permission was given to the air taxis;

(c) number of cases of misbehaviour by the passengers on board after serving reported to Government together with the details; and

(d) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to ensure that the ban on serving liquor on flights is observed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Under the existing Aircraft Rules serving of liquor on board the flight is not prohibited.

(c) Information is being collected.

(d) Implementation of the order is being monitored.

Ban on transfer of officials in PSUs

360. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether one-year ban has been imposed by the Ministry on the transfer of officials in its public sector undertakings like T.A., TAAT etc.; and

(b) if so, when the ban is expected to take effect from?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Absorption of Vayudoot Staff

361. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines is absorbing the Vayudoot staff within and outside the company; and

(b) if so, the names of the staff alongwith their qualifications taken over by Indian Airlines alongwith the absorption in other undertakings/companies?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Indian Airlines is absorbing Vayudoot staff in the newly created Short Haul Operations Department in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Government.

(b) So far appointment letters have been issued to two handicapped (blind) employees namely Mr. Mangal Sen and Mr. Mukta Prasad.

Modernisation and upgradation of airports

362. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of modernisation and upgradation of each one of the 130 airports in the country;

(b) the project cost and the amount incurred at each of the airports with detailed equipment; and

(c) the time frame for the completion of the job alongwith the financial outlay?